

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A tire characterized by using as a member, a rubber composition comprising (a) a rubber component comprising at least one selected from a natural rubber and a diene base synthetic rubber, (b) silica having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface area (N_2SA) of 180 to 270 m^2/g , 0.1 to 10.0 mass parts of (c) a partial ester compound of maleic anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative per 100 mass parts of the rubber component described above, and (d) at least one hydrazide compound selected from naphthoic acid hydrazides and salicylic acid hydrazides in an amount of 0.1 to 5.0 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component (a),

wherein the silica (b) contained in the rubber composition has a content of 2 to 50 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the hydrazide compound (d) is 2-hydroxy- N' -(1,3-dimethylbutylidene)-3-naphthoic acid hydrazide.

4. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein 20 mass parts or more of the natural rubber is contained in 100 mass parts of the whole rubber component.

5. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the rubber composition comprises (e) carbon black having a nitrogen-absorbing specific surface area (N_2SA) of 30 to 160 m^2/g and a dibutyl phthalate oil absorption (DBP) of 60 to 150 ml/100 g in an amount of 30 to 80 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component (a).

6. (canceled).

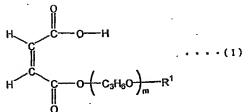
7. (currently amended): The tire as described in claim 1, comprising a ~~tire for a~~ heavy load tire.

8. (original): The tire as described in claim 7, wherein the tire for a heavy load is an off-road tire.

9. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the rubber composition described above is applied to a cap tread and/or an undertread in a tread part.

10. (currently amended): A tire characterized by using as a tread rubber, a rubber composition comprising (A) a rubber component comprising a conjugate diene base rubber, (B) a filler comprising 10 mass % or more of silica based on the ~~whole~~ total amount of fillers, (C) a partial ester compound of maleic anhydride and a (poly)oxypropylene derivative, and (D) at least one resin selected from a petroleum base resin having a softening point of 30 to 150°C and an α -olefin base resin.

11. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 1, wherein the partial ester compound described above is a compound represented by the following Formula (I):



wherein m is a number of 3 to 7 showing an average polymerization degree, and R¹ is an alkyl group or an alkenyl group having 8 to 18 carbon atoms.

12. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein the conjugate diene base rubber comprises at least a styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber.

13. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein a blending amount of the filler as the component (B) is 30 to 150 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the rubber component.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented): The tire as described in claim 10, wherein the rubber composition described above further comprises a softening agent comprising an oil in which a dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) extract amount measured by an IP346 method is controlled to less than 3 mass %.

16. (canceled)